

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further consideration of this application, and reconsideration of the Office Action dated July 15, 2004.

The Examiner's grant of a further interview on September 10, 2004 has been appreciated. This Amendment reduces the present application to previously indicated allowed and allowable claims. It thus seeks immediate allowance of the application.

Upon entry of this paper, claims 2, 9, 12, 13, 15, 31, and 32 will remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 4-8, 10, 11, 14, 16-22, 24-27, 29, 30, and 33 are canceled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a subsequent filed continuation application. No new matter is added as a result of this Amendment.

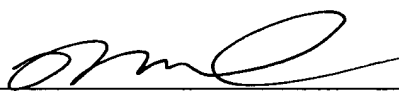
Applicants continue to gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 9, 12, 13, and 15 were allowed. Applicants also acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 31 and 32 contain allowable subject matter. In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 31 and 32 but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims. In response Applicants have amended claims 31 and 32 as suggested.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, such as fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 033035.0231.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAM/BLN